

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
VERONICA FLOREK ON HER
OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT-
TEND THE UNITED STATES MER-
CHANT MARINE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Veronica Florek of Maumee, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Veronica's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2027. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Veronica brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2027. While attending Springfield High School in Holland, Ohio, Veronica participated in student government, Students in Action, JROTC, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Veronica was involved with basketball, track, and soccer, becoming the captain of her varsity soccer team. I am confident that Veronica will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Merchant Marine Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Veronica Florek on her offer of appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Veronica will excel during her career at the Merchant Marine Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

HONORING DR. PHELTON MOSS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Dr. Phelton Moss, my senior policy advisor who is transitioning from my office to continue his mission at the NAACP.

A Mississippi native, Dr. Moss came to my office ready to change the American education system to increase equity and give students a fighting chance to succeed. While in my office, Dr. Moss has pushed my education agenda to great lengths—from drafting legislation to in-

crease teacher pay, increase the Pell grant, and provide at least one nurse in every public school.

In our time together, I have recognized that Dr. Moss is a force in education. His passion has been powerful over the last year as we have fought for underserved and disadvantaged communities. His commitment to education has led Dr. Moss to teach high school English, move an underperforming middle school in Mississippi from an F to a C, and become Bureau Director of Educator Effectiveness and Talent Acquisition at the Mississippi Department of Education. Dr. Moss has and will continue to make a difference and leave his mark on education as he continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Phelton Cortez Moss for his exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

HONORING THE LIFE OF AVIATION
ENFORCEMENT AGENT ESTEBAN
"STEVE" G. PEÑA

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to honor the life and legacy of Aviation Enforcement Agent Esteban "Steve" G. Peña, who died in the line-of-duty on April 15, 2023. He leaves behind a lasting legacy of duty and sacrifice to our nation.

Agent Peña began his duty in 2016 as a Flight Engineer with Air and Marine Operations (AMO). At the time of his passing, he was assigned to the National Air Security Operations Center in Corpus Christi, Texas. Agent Peña was a valued member of the AMO family, serving the National Air Security Operations Center's (NASOC) Corpus Christi team. He worked tirelessly over the past 7 years with dignity and a strong commitment to Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) mission and his colleagues. Most importantly, Steve was a great mentor to CBP's pilots. His passion to teach his colleagues about the systems on our aircrafts will never be forgotten.

My prayers are with his wife of 41 years, Gloria E. Vivian Peña; his mother, Rosario Thomas; four brothers and one sister, Jorge Peña, Joel Peña, Hector Peña, Ruben Peña, and Rosie Guerra.

It is my honor to recognize Agent Peña's remarkable service and dedication to his family and country. May his family and loved ones be comforted during this time of loss.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
PARKER SCHOFIELD ON HIS
OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT-
TEND THE UNITED STATES
NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Parker Schofield of Maumee, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Parker's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2027. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Parker brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2027. While attending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Parker was a volunteer for numerous groups, camp counselor at several camps, and was a member of the National Honor Society. Throughout high school, Parker was involved with soccer and basketball, earning varsity letters in both. I am confident that Parker will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Parker Schofield on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Parker will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

HONORING DETECTIVE BARRETT
CHRISSIS

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Barrett Chrissis, who is retiring after more than 37 years in law enforcement.

Barrett has truly lived a life in service to his community and collected many uniforms along the way. Barrett began his career in law enforcement at Moorhead State University's Criminal Justice Program, where he served as a correctional officer and part-time police officer. During this time, he worked for the Clay County and Becker County Sheriff's Offices

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and the city police departments of Moorhead, Dilworth, Glyndon, Hawley and Detroit Lakes.

In 1993, Barrett became a full-time investigator for the North Dakota State Attorney's office. He worked there for two years prior to being called home to Dilworth to serve as the city's first full-time detective. During that time, he also served as a Clay County Sheriff's Deputy and a courtroom security officer.

In 2003, Barrett joined the Buffalo Police Department as a Detective and has been with the department since. He is the incoming chairman of the Minnesota Children's Justice Act Task Force, where he has served as a voice for law enforcement for the past six years.

As a court-certified expert witness in sex crimes investigations since 2010, Barrett has instructed law enforcement, county attorneys, medical personnel, and victim advocates on sex crimes investigations on behalf of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

A pivotal moment in Barrett's career came in 2021 during the tragic Allina Health Clinic shooting in Buffalo. As a result of his bravery and role on the initial entry team during the attack, he was awarded the Medal of Valor by the Buffalo Police Department in March 2022. The medal is the highest possible award given by law enforcement.

Through his heroic service to our communities, Barrett has kept thousands of Minnesotans safe. While the community of Buffalo will miss him, we thank him for his years of service to our community and wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of May 15, 2023, I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 213 and YEA on Roll Call No. 214.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF THERESA GULLO

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with Ranking Member BOYLE, to recognize and honor Theresa Gullo on her retirement after 38 years of service to the Congress and the nation at the Congressional Budget Office.

Through her leadership, hard work, and analytical skill, Teri's enormous contributions to CBO have greatly benefitted the Congress and the American people. After starting her career as a CBO intern and then completing her graduate degree, Teri joined the agency in 1985 as an analyst in the Natural and Physical Resources Cost Estimates Unit of the Budget Analysis Division. Ten years later, she was the founding chief of CBO's State and Local Gov-

ernment Cost Estimates Unit, which she built up from scratch and led in the formulation of the principles and procedures that today underlie CBO's analyses of public- and private-sector legislative mandates. She subsequently was promoted to Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis and, in 2015, became the Director of CBO's Budget Analysis Division, a position in which she has supervised the work of one-third of CBO's staff.

In that capacity, Teri has played a key role—often seven days a week—in facilitating CBO's response to the challenges posed by major reconciliation legislation, the coronavirus pandemic, and rapidly evolving legislative developments. She has overseen the careful preparation of thousands of cost estimates for legislation considered by the Congress and the fulfillment of several thousand requests each year for technical information to help committees craft legislation. She has led CBO's development of multiyear projections of federal spending and its annual analyses of the President's budget request and she has coordinated CBO's scorekeeping activities for legislation considered by appropriations and authorizing committees. Teri also has played a crucial role in enhancing Congressional understanding of CBO and its work. She has worked tirelessly to identify the most effective ways for the agency to provide and clearly explain timely analysis to the Congress.

All of those accomplishments point to Teri's deep commitment to providing high-quality, objective, nonpartisan information to support the work of the Congress.

Teri also has used her considerable skills to help many others develop professionally. She has mentored numerous public servants who have become leaders at CBO, in federal and state agencies, and in the private sector. Within CBO she is respected as a manager who is honest, collaborative, compassionate, and curious. Her colleagues understand her willingness to carefully consider diverse viewpoints and opinions, so that even when a decision is different from the one they might have preferred, members of her staff always have felt heard and valued. Teri has demonstrated how to embrace change and to view new challenges as opportunities to accomplish goals in new ways.

Teri's achievements have been recognized by many, including the American Association for Budget and Program Analysis and the National Academy of Public Administration. The people she has guided and mentored throughout her career serve as her lasting legacy to CBO and the broader federal budget community.

We thank Teri for her dedicated and skillful work for the American people and wish her well in retirement.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JOSSELL BAKHEET ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an out-

standing student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Jossell Bakheet of Perrysburg, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Jossell's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2027. Attending one of our nation's military academies offers the opportunity to serve our country and receive a world-class education. At the same time, these young men and women undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Jossell brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2027. While attending Olentangy Orange High School in Lewis Center, Ohio, Jossell participated in student government, medical club, Spanish Honorary Society, and was a member of the National Honor Society. Throughout high school, Jossell played lacrosse and field hockey, and she served as team captain in both. After high school, she attended the Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jossell Bakheet on her offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Jossell will excel during her career at the Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING MR. EDGAR "BEE" ERNEST WILHELMS, JR.

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2023

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Edgar "Bee" Ernest Wilhelms, Jr. of Reynolds County, Missouri. Edgar Ernest Wilhelms, Jr. was born in Exchange, Missouri on September 12, 1925, to Edgar and Wessie Wilhelms. On May 15, 1943, Bee was united in marriage to Lucille Haywood. On December 3rd of that year, he was inducted into the U.S. Army where he served until January 7, 1946. During his time in the Army, Corporal Wilhelms, Jr. served in the European Theater of Operations, was assigned to the Headquarters Battery of the 758th Field Artillery Battalion and participated in three major campaigns: The Rhineland Campaign including the Battle of Hurtgen Forest; the Ardennes Campaign including the Battle of the Bulge, and the Central Europe Campaign. His awards included the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two service bars and three campaign stars, the Army Good Conduct Medal, WWII Victory Ribbon, WWII Army Occupation Medal with Germany Bar, and the Rifle Sharpshooter device.

Mr. Wilhelms was a loving husband, father, friend, and a proud lifelong member of the VFW Post 6660. Mr. Wilhelms departed this life just short of his 98th birthday on May 10, 2023. He was the last remaining World War II veteran in Reynolds County, Missouri.

On behalf of the people of southern Missouri, I am proud to honor the life of Mr. Edgar Ernest Wilhelms, Jr.